The following is from the *Procedures Governing Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities* 2004. A revised document reflecting changes in IDEIA 2006 will be available in the summer 2007.

.1503 REFERRAL

When a teacher, parent, or other involved person recognizes that a child is exhibiting developmental problems or that a child's educational needs are not being met, he/she will provide in writing the reason for referral, addressing the specific presenting problems and the child's current strengths and weaknesses or needs. This referral shall be given to the principal of the school, the child's teacher or other school professional, or the superintendent or other appointed official of the local educational agency. For preschool children with disabilities, the referral also may be given to the person designated to be in charge of services for preschool children with disabilities.

All children with suspected disabilities ages 3 through 21 who are diagnosed or evaluated by personnel in the Department of Health and Human Services and Children's Developmental Services Agencies shall be referred to the city or county school administrative unit of their residence for local educational agency involvement in determining eligibility and placement.

History Note: Statutory Authority G. S. 115C-106(b): 115C-113; Eff. July 15, 1979. Amended Eff. July, 1999; July 11, 1991. IDEA 97 Final Regulations 34 CFR §§ 300.503-300.504.